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TWO

LETTERS

ON THE

ORIGIN, ANTIQUITY, AND HISTORY,

OF

NORMAN TILES,

STAINED WITH

ARMORIAL BEARINGS.

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A

LETTER

TO

GEORGE,

EARL OF LEICESTER,

PRESIDENT

OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES,

&c. &c. &c.

READ TO THE SOCIETY, *FEB.* 7, 1788.

FROM

JOHN HENNIKER, Esq.

M. A. F. R. S. S. A. and M. P.

ONE OF THE BARONS OF THE CINQUE PORTS FOR
NEW ROMNEY.

Σημεῖ' ἰδὼν τότ' ἀσπίδων ἐγνώρισα,
Ἃ προσδεδορκὼς οἶδα τὰς ὡπλισμένας.

ΕΥΡΙΠΙΔΟΥ ΦΟΙΝΙΣΣΑΙ.

OBSERVATION.

To prevent apparent incongruity it is premised that in the interval between the date of the first and second Letter, the Author, by His Majesty's Permission, took the additional name of MAJOR.

TO

HIS MUCH BELOVED AND MUCH HONORED

FATHER

SIR JOHN HENNIKER,

OF

NEWTON-HALL, AND STRATFORD-HOUSE,

BOTH IN THE

COUNTY OF ESSEX,

BARONET;

THIS SMALL BUT SINCERE PLEDGE OF

FILIAL DUTY

AND

WARM AFFECTION

INSCRIBES AND DEDICATES,

JOHN HENNIKER MAJOR.

A LETTER TO *GEORGE*, *EARL OF LEICESTER.*

CHARLOTTE-STREET,
Jan. 21, 1788.

MY LORD,

THE armorial bearings which I have the honor of transmitting to your Lordship, and to the Society of Antiquaries, were sent to me, some time ago, from Caen, by my brother, Captain Henniker, then resident at the place, and studious

of its antiquities. I have hitherto delayed to bring them forward, waiting for some information on the subject, from the Professor of Rhetoric in the University there; to whom I have frequently applied for assistance, both by letter, and in person. Having now given up all hope of any satisfactory information from him, I have determined to produce them with such gleanings of history as I myself have been able to collect, and with those suggestions which naturally arise from them, in order to elucidate as far as may be their remote antiquity.

The histories of England and Normandy are so interwoven between the middle of the eleventh, and beginning of the thirteenth centuries, that they are reciprocally and mutually interesting to the inhabitants of the two countries. The conquest, in particular, is a feature so prominent, as to have occupied the thoughts and the pens on both sides of the Channel. The number of Norman nobility living at that time, have left various traces of their families in both countries remaining to this day ; and to that nobility these coats of arms principally relate.

They are sustained on tiles which were once part of the building of the *Abbaye aux Hommes*, at Caen, the capital of Lower Normandy, William of Poictiers, archdeacon of Lisieux, gives us the reason for erecting, as well this convent dedicated to St. Stephen, the proto-martyr, as the *Abbaye aux Dames* dedicated to the Holy Trinity. He says that Duke William, upon being reproved by the ecclesiastics for having married a relation, sent an embassy to consult the Pope. The Roman Pontiff, fearing to provoke a war between the Duke of Normandy and the Earl of Flanders,

whose daughter (Matilda) the Duke had married, granted them an absolution, but enjoined them to build two abbeys, the one for men, the other for women. In obedience to which mandate, the abbey for the reception of men was erected by the Conqueror, and the abbey for the reception of women, by his consort Matilda ; and they now remain no inconsiderable monuments of papal power and subtilty.

The first stone was laid about the year 1064 : the precise time when this convent, built by the Conqueror, was consecrated, is not

exactly ascertained. The annals of St. Stephen's place it in the year 1073. Another Author says that in the year 1077, the Archbishop of Rouen, consecrated this convent in the midst of a great concourse of People, and that the King and his nobles endowed it with great riches. At any rate, however, the consecration was after the conquest, which took place in the year 1066.

I CANNOT more clearly describe the circumstances under which these tiles are found, than in the words of that learned antiquary, Dr. Ducarel, who made a tour to Normandy

for the express purpose of visiting its antiquities.

" WITHIN the precinct of this " abbey (the abbey of St. Stephen) " and adjoining to the church, " King William the Conqueror " built a stately palace for his own " residence; several parts of it " still remain; particularly one " apartment, which is very large, " and makes a noble appearance. " The rooms in this apartment " are at present used as grana- " ries, but were formerly called " the GUARD CHAMBER and BA- " RON'S HALL.

" ONE of these rooms, and indeed
" the principal one now remaining
" was distinguished by the name
" of the GREAT GUARD CHAMBER.
" This room, the ceiling whereof
" is vaulted, and forms a most
" magnificent arch, is lofty and
" well-proportioned, being one
" hundred and fifty feet in length,
" and ninety in breadth.

" THE floor is paved with tiles
" (the tiles in question) each near
" five inches square, baked almost
" to vitrification. Eight rows of
" these tiles running from east to
" west are charged with different

" coats of arms, generally said to
" be those of the families who
" attended Duke William in his
" invasion of England. The in-
" tervals between each of these
" rows are filled up with a kind of
" tessellated pavement; the middle
" whereof represents a maze or
" labyrinth, about ten feet in
" diameter, and so artfully con-
" trived, that were we to suppose
" a man following all the intricate
" meanders of its volutes, he could
" not travel less than a mile before
" he got from one end to the other.
" The remainder of this floor is
" inlaid with small squares of dif-

" ferent colours, placed alternately,
" and formed into draught or
" chess-boards, for the amusement
" of the soldiery whilst on guard.
" Turning out of this room, on
" the left hand, you enter a smaller
" room, called the BARONS' HALL,
" twenty-four feet in breadth, and
" twenty-seven in length, paved
" with the same sort of tiles as
" the former; but with this dif-
" ference, that instead of coats of
" arms they are stained with the
" figures of stags and dogs in full
" chase. The walls of this room
" seem to have been ornamented
" with escutcheons of arms, painted

" on heater shields, some of which
" are still remaining.

" CRITICS in antiquary know-
" ledge are much divided in their
" opinion, whether the pavements
" of these rooms are coeval with
" William the Conqueror, or not;
" some alleging that the tiles were
" stained in his time with the
" arms of those attending him in
" his expedition against England;
" whilst others insist that the bear-
" ing of arms, as a family dis-
" tinction, was unknown during
" his reign; and that although the
" coats of arms of the great Norman

" nobility are depicted on these
" tiles, yet several of those coats
" belong to families who are known
" not to have been concerned in
" Duke William's expedition into
" England; and that therefore it
" is more probable this pavement
" was laid down in the latter part
" of the reign of King John, whilst
" he was loitering away his life at
" Caen, with the beautiful Isabel of
" Angoulesme, his Queen, during
" which period, the custom of
" wearing coats of arms was in-
" troduced. It is further remark-
" able, that notwithstanding these
" rooms have been used as granaries

" for upwards of four hundred
" years, neither the damps of the
" wheat, the turning and shifting
" of the grain, nor the wooden
" shoes and spades of the peasants,
" constantly employed in bringing
" in and cleansing the wheat, have
" in the least damaged the floor, or
" worn off the painting from the
" tiles. The only injury this floor
" hath received, is the taking up
" some few of the tiles, in order to
" open funnels through the floor,
" for the more ready conveyance
" of the corn into the rooms be-
" neath."

Dr. Ducarel has omitted to observe, that though the number of the tiles is very great, yet there is only a limited number of *coats of arms*; the representations of which are repeated to make up the number of tiles used in the pavement. The sixteen tiles now offered to the Society, contain an exemplar of each coat; and the Monks of the convent, upon a late destruction of a part, or of the whole of the pavement, have taken tiles correspondent with these, and fixed them in a row in one of the walls of their garden.

The account of these tiles above cited, has at least established for them a very respectable antiquity. I am inclined, however, to consider them as much prior to the reign of King John, for reasons, which I shall suggest, as they offer themselves to my recollection.

It is not to my purpose to insist with Mr. Edmondson upon the *very* high antiquity of family coats of arms: it is sufficient for me that they existed at the Conquest. Insignia or banners, with various devices on shields, were used in ancient times by the Greeks, the

Etruscans, and the Romans, as appears by their coins, medals, and earthen ware*. I have no doubt but that this usage, engrafted on

* The passages in Æschylus and Euripides, are, perhaps, the highest authority in point of antiquity for this custom, carrying it back to a period more than four centuries before Christ; the ornaments on the shield of Achilles are too multifarious to be considered as an armorial bearing. Mr. Potter, the learned and elegant translator of Æschylus, in his introduction to the Seven Champions against Thebes, does not scruple to say, "That the shields of six of these chiefs are charged "with armorial bearings, expressive of their cha- "racters, and as regular as if they had been mar- "shalled by an herald at arms." The shield of Amphiarus is a "shining orb, bearing no im- "press;" and a reason is given for this omission which proves the general practice, "For his ge- "nerous soul wishes to *be*, not to *appear* the "best."

Æschylus mentions a *border* on one of the shields, and particularizes mottos inscribed on some of

the feudal system, first gave rise to family coats of arms: the former was a national or provincial, the

them. The spy, who had been sent to ascertain the number and quality of the besiegers, says to Eteocles, when speaking of his brother Polynices:

" His well-orb'd shield he holds
" New-wrought, and with a double impress charg'd:
" A warrior blazing all in golden arms,
" A female form of modest aspect leads
" Expressing Justice, as th' inscription speaks:
" YET ONCE MORE TO HIS COUNTRY, AND ONCE MORE
" TO HIS PATERNAL THRONE I WILL RESTORE HIM.
" *Such their devices.*"

Other mottos are also to be found in Æschylus, but not to swell this note, I shall only observe that the arms of Tydeus, which alone are particularly appropriated by Euripides, are the same in both authors. Æschylus, indeed, mentions a moon, which is not taken notice of by Antigone in Euripides: nor was it in character for this princess, seeing from the walls of Thebes the besiegers at a distance, to note so *minutely* their armorial bearings.

latter a personal distinction, founded however, upon some feudal tenure, which obliged the tenants *in capite* to appear armed, and with their dependants in arms upon stated occasions. Banners carried before the troops distinguished as well the leader as the corps: nor was it unlikely that in imitation of ancient times they should ornament their shields with some device, and none was so proper as that which led their followers, and animated them to deeds of prowess. As the tenure in process of time became hereditary, (it must have been always so in some degree) the same banner

continued to be borne before the troops, and figured successively on the shield of each respective heir, after the death of his ancestor. And what was at first the effect of service arising from tenure, became, as the peerages of modern days, a mere personal distinction; and descended, although at length wholly personal, according to the rules of inheritance. As coats of arms are of feudal origin, so also I think it probable, from the structure of a military body upon that institution, that they were coeval with the system.

It was not till about the time of Rollo's descent in Normandy that the feudal system was much known in the more northern nations. The first Saxons who had established themselves in this country had left a constitution very dissimilar. We find in numberless petitions to our Norman Kings, an earnest desire that the old Saxon laws (of Alfred and Edward the Confessor) might be kept in force and practised. The feudal system was certainly introduced into England by the Conqueror, and prevailed in considerable vigour for many centuries. It was not till after the restoration of

111.126

Charles the IId. that upon settling the distracted state of this country, the more burthensome and characteristic part was, by the law of the land, finally lopped off: and we have now the happiness to consider it less as a rule of conduct, than as an object of curiosity.

Mr. Edmondson, from the Cousumier de Normandie, concludes that "The Normans were so well acquainted with the feudal system "that they planned and established "the form of their government on "that system at the time of their "first settlement in France; in evi-

" dence of which (he says) we find
" that most part of the lands in
" Normandy were held of the Duke
" by military tenure, and that the
" use of hereditary arms, as well as
" other feudal customs, were ob-
" served by the nobility, and chief
" land-holders of that Dutchy.
" Hence (he adds) there cannot be
" the least shadow of doubt that
" the commanders of those different
" corps which composed Duke
" William's army, when he invaded
" this kingdom, made use of the
" same marks or tokens of dis-
" tinction."

To leave Edmondson for a while, I shall next mention some observations which apply to this point of history.

If the English were at that time accustomed to armorial bearings, the fashion probably had been borrowed from the Normans. Harold had often fought in the army of Duke William, and would be inclined as a great warrior (which character he indisputably possessed) to introduce among his own followers a custom which promotes regularity, and inspires emulation. Besides the coat of arms of Edward

the Confessor is still visible in the sculpture of Westminster-Hall, which although built and repaired long after his death, conveys a proof, stronger in proportion as it is more near to the time in which he lived, than any more modern suggestion.

I AM the further inclined to give credit to the early use of armorial bearings from the representation of the tapestry at Bayeux, which all in the least conversant in Anglo-Normantic antiquities, know to have been the work of the consort of King William. It pourtrays very

particularly the descent made by the Conqueror upon England. I am sorry indeed in the following suggestion to differ from the authority of the learned antiquary first cited. He says, "The bucklers "[*i. e.* in the tapestry] are charged "with several devices; but these "are not to be esteemed as coats of "arms, since the custom of bear-"ing such was not introduced till "many years after this event." But if it appear from what has already been shewn upon the subject, that this position is no longer tenable, its consequence necessarily falls with it. The remark of Dr.

Ducarel, however, proves that any person, not so prejudiced against the antiquity of coats of arms, would from the devices on these bucklers conclude them to be such.

In several instances those represented as bearing devices on their bucklers, are apparently intended for persons of leaders, or at least of an elevated rank. In one part are several horsemen, with devices strongly marked on their shields. In another the first horseman immediately following Duke William has a device on his shield; the others, probably of inferior note,

have plain shields. Where the passage to England is represented, some vessels are ornamented with shields bearing devices in their sterns; and perhaps in the stern of one is to be distinguished two coats of arms: whether from the owner being married or from his being possessed of two lordships, I will not pretend to determine. The vessel which contains the foot soldiers is the only large vessel whose stern is visible that has no shield with a device on her stern; and although the bucklers of the men are ranged along the side, no device is to be seen on them, which

I take to be a mark of their inferiority as foot-soldiers. Indeed I am inclined to think that in no instance any foot soldier, as such, has any device represented on his shield. Some warriours on foot have this distinction, but they are completely armed, which I conceive to be a proof that they are horsemen dismounted.

It is, I acknowledge, an objection that these arms are not formed with any regularity, which, had it been found would have been conclusive evidence. But on the other hand we cannot imagine that a

princess whose only object was to memorize the achievements and glory of her husband, would, or could, in a piece of needle-work so strictly adhere to such minutiæ, even if she had been herald sufficient to be conversant in armorial bearings.

In a pedigree of one of my friends I find the representation of the arms of this same princess to be the exact copy of the tile No. 2. This I doubt not was placed by the founder among the others as a compliment to his consort. And as I can find no reason for this coat having been

introduced at any other period, it not only stands a test of its own antiquity, but from the similarity of the tiles in every respect communicates it to the rest.

I HAVE no scruple to say that I believe these coats of arms were not the bearings of those *only*, who attended Duke William in his expedition, which however, will by no means justify any supposition that the arms of some of his followers on that occasion are not to be found among them, or that they are not of equal antiquity with the convent.

That they were coeval with the convent, appears from what Mr. Edmondson relates of a picture till lately to have been seen at Ely, in which the portraits, the names, and the coats of arms of several Normans in command under Duke William, were, as he says, properly *blazoned**. This deserves our attention, as proving that hereditary gentilitial arms were used

* We find in Bentham's Antiquities of Ely, p. 106, that certain knights and gentlemen of the best families, who were quartered on the monastery, had their arms set up in the refectory or great Hall; these persons remained there till called away to Normandy on the insurrection of Robert the King's son, in the year 1077 or 1078.

by the Normans in this country soon after the invasion.

It seems to me that the bearings on these tiles are prior to those mentioned by Mr. Edmondson. He observes that the arms at Ely were *blazoned*; a perfection to which the heraldic art at the time of this pavement's being laid in Normandy, had not probably, from the simplicity of their structure, advanced, as two colours only, yellow and brown, form their whole variation.

That they were anterior to King John is evident. At the time of

the croisades a general influx of coats of arms took place. The world was mad, and every chief thought he could not act more worthily than lead his followers, however few, in an enterprize to the Holy Land. This producing an intercourse with the feudists, a similitude of habits, an emulation, and a greater necessity for this distinction, from the mixture of so many, and so different people, and nations, the use of coats of arms became more general, and more beneficial: and from that time crosses, escallops and other ensigns of pilgrimage, were adopted for ar-

morial devices, to denote the valour, or the sanctity of the bearer. If the coats of arms on these tiles were not prior to the croisades, or at least to any expedition to the Holy Land from Normandy, is it not probable that such bearings would be found amongst them?

That some of the followers of Duke William were among those whose arms are here delineated, is much more than possible. I shall insert the list of them from the Chronicon Johannis Bromton, where will be found several names of families who now continue to

bear coats of arms, some similar to, others precisely the same as, those ascribed to them among the tiles. Coats of arms have often varied from a new acquisition, or from the caprice of an individual of a family. A variation may also have taken place in their names during so long an interval: nor is that to be wondered at, as the same had happened when Bromton wrote.

Vous qe desyrez assaver
Les nons de grauntz dela la mer
Qe vindrent od le conquerour
William Bastard de graunt vigour
Lours surnons issi vous devys

Com je les trouvay en escris.
Car des propres nons force n'y a
Porce q'illis sont chaunges sa et la
Come de Edmonde en Edwarde
De Baldwyn en Barnard,
De Godwyne en Godard
De Elys en Edwyn,
Et issint de touz autres nons
Come ils sont levez du fons
Porce lours surnons qe sont usez
Et ne sont pas sovent chaungez
Vous ay escript ore escotez
Si vous oier les voylleth
Maundevyle et Daundevyle
Ounfravyle et Downfravyle
Bolvyle et Baskervyle
Evyle et Clevyle

Morevyle et Colevyle
Warbevyle et Carvyle
Botevyle et Stotevyle
Deverous et *Caunvyle*
Mooun et Boun
Vipoun et Vinoun
Baylon et Bayloun
Maris et Marmyoun
Agulis et Aguloun
Chaumburleyn et Chaumbersoun
Vere et Vernoun
Verdyers et Verdoun
Cryel et Cardoun
Dummer et Domoun
Hastyng et Cammois
Bardelfe Botes et Boys
Warrenne et Wardeboys

Rodes et Deverois
Auris et Argenten
Botecour et Botevyleyn
Malebouch et Malesmeyn
Hautevyle et Hauteyn
Dauney et Dyveyn
Malure et Malvesyn
Morten et Mortimer
Braunz et Columber
Seynt Denis et Seynt Cler
Seynt Aubyn et Seynt Omer
Seynt Fylbert *Fyens* et Gomer
Turbevyle et Turbemer
Gorges et Spenser
Brus et Boteler
Crevequel et St Quinteyn
Deverouge et St Martin

Seynt Mor et Seynt Leger
Seynt Vigor et Seynt Per
Auynel et *Paynell*
Peyvere et Peverell
Rivers et Rivel
Beaucham et Beaupel
Lou et Lovell
Ros et Druell
Montabours et Mountsorell
Trussebot et Trussell
Bergos et Burnell
Bray et Boterell
Biset et Basset
Malevyle et *Malet*
Bonevyle et Bonet
Nervyle et Narbet
Coynale et Corbet

Mountayn et Mounfychet
Geynevyle et *Gyffard*
Say et Seward
Chary et Chaward
Pyryton et Pypard
Harecourt et Haunsard
Musegrave et Musard
Mare et Mautravers
Fernz et Ferers
Bernevyle et Berners
Cheyne et Chalers
Daundon et Daungers
Vessi Gray et Graungers
Bertram et Bygod
Traylliz et *Traygod*
Penbri et Pypotte
Freyn et Folyot

Dapisoun et Talbote
Sanzaver et Saunford
Vadu et Vatorte
Montagu et Mounford
Forneus et Fornyvaus
Valens Yle et Vaus
Clarel et Claraus
Aubevyle et Seynt Amauns
Agantez et Dragans
Malerbe et Maudut
Brewes et Chaudut
Fitzowres et Fiz de lou
Cantemor et Cantelou
Braybuffe et Huldbynse
Bolebeke et Molyns
Moleton et Besyle
Rochford et Desevyle

Watervyle et Dayvyle
Nebors et Nevyle
Hynoys Burs Burgenon
Ylebone Hyldebrond Helyon
Loges et Seint Lou
Mausbank et Seint Malou
Wake et Wakevyle
Coudree et Knovyle
Scales et Clermount
Beauvys et Beaumount
Mouns et Mountchampe
Nowers et Nowchampe
Percy Crus et Lacy
Quincy et Tracy
Stokes et Somery
Sein Johan et Seint Jay
Greyle et Seynt Walry

Pynkeney et *Pavely*
Mohaunt et Mountchensy
Loveyn et *Lucy*
Artos et Arcy
Grevyle et Courcy
Arras et Cressy
Merle et *Moubray*
Gornay et Courtnay
Haustlayng et Tornay
Husee et Husay
Pounchardon et Pomeray
Longevyle et Longespay
Peyns et Pountlarge
Straunge et Sauvage.
Bibl. cotton Tiber. c. xiii.

I HAVE thought it proper to adduce the whole of this; although,

as Bromton has observed, it be not a complete list, in order to shew that *some* of the coats of arms in question belong to *some* of the followers of Duke William, and to give an opportunity to any one, more conversant in antiquary knowledge than myself, to point out any other names to which others of them may refer without the trouble of turning to the original.

From all the circumstances, above mentioned, I feel a conviction in my own mind, that these tiles must have been coeval with the convent: but that they bear the arms of the

followers of Duke William, as such, I cannot insist; for there is no reason to suppose but that those followers of William, who were entitled to such an honourable notice of their services, must have been, by far, more numerous than the several armorial bearings stained on these tiles.

The truth, I take it, proceeds from another quarter. The learned Norman historian observes, that the Archbishop of Rouen consecrated this convent in the midst of a great concourse of people, and that the King and his *Nobles* endowed with

great riches. Here then we find the owners of these coats of arms, in the Nobles who contributed to the endowment of the monastery. We find similar consecrations and endowments of monasteries, by the nobles present; such, among others, which I have somewhere met with, as at the abbey of Croyland; and upon a similar occasion I am told by a learned and respectable friend, the arms of those who contributed liberally were placed in the cathedral of Litchfield. In the Cloisters at Canterbury are a great number of coats of arms, suppsoed to belong

to those who promoted the elevation and endowment of that establishment. It is probable, that at the consecration of the convent at Caen, many of William's followers assisted, and became benefactors to the institution. This would procure for them the honor of having their arms inserted in the paving tiles of the building; from which this mistake of attributing these arms to his followers *only* might possibly take its rise.

I WROTE to a gentleman at Caen, who takes great pleasure, and is conversant in the antiquities

of the place for information upon the devices marked on these tiles, considered as armorial bearings, and from his answer I have made the following extract:—

" *Quelques recherches que J' aye pu*
" *faire dans le Nobiliaire de Normandie,*
" *et divers ouvrages concernants la*
" *Noblesse du nombre des* 16 *Ecussons*
" *de votre fac-simile, je suis seulement*
" *parvenu a scavoir qu'il y en a cinq,*
" *dont les armes sont celles de cinq*
" *familles existantes actuellement ici*
" *scavoir.*

" No. V. *La famille Mathan,*
" No. VI. *La Roque Mesnillet,*

" No. VII. *Harcourt.*
" No. IX. *La Riviere Predauge,*
" No. XII. *Talvas proche Isigny.*

" *A l' egard, Monsieur des seigneurs*
" *dont vous avez pris les noms dans*
" *Bromton, un de vos anciens auteurs,*
" *il existe encore nombre de familles en*
" *France qui les portent, dont il se*
" *peut bien que les auteurs ayent ac-*
" *compagne Guillaume le Conquerant a*
" *la conquete de l' Angleterre.*"

By way of conclusion, I shall now, my Lord, subjoin representations of the several coats of arms

on these tiles, with such observations as arise from each of them separately considered.

No. I.

The arms of France—The King's mantle at St. Denis is semée with fleurs de Lis as we find this coat of arms. The arms of France also quartered with those of England on the shields borne by the figures of angels in Westminster Hall are represented in the same manner. It was not indeed till lately, in comparison of the period to which these

tiles belong, that these the original arms of France were changed to *three* fleurs de Lis. I have often conceived that three representations of any device in coats of arms mean an indefinite number of them. If so, the three fleurs de Lis in the arms of France at this day are the same, as to the idea they are intended to convey, as the original arms here delineated. The number *three* has particular pretensions to such a distinction. The King of France was feudal lord of Duke William, and not improbably a benefactor to the convent.

No. II.

THE coat of arms of Matilda, consort of the Conqueror: she was daughter of the Earl of Flanders.

No. III.

THE coat of arms of Chaumberleyn, one of the followers of Duke William (see Bromton). This family is descended from the Counts of Tancarville in Normandy.

No. IV.

THE family of Mallet, who followed the Conqueror in his inva-

sion of England (see Bromton), bear this coat. These arms are found annexed to the name of Mallet in the armorial of Normandy.

In England we have families of the same name which bear similar arms; and as it is well known that in all times additions and variations have taken place in armorial bearings, although borne by the same families, I consider these families as descended from the same origin.

Gu. a fesse erm between six round buckles Or—Mallet of Derby.

Gu. a fesse erm between six square buckles Or—Malet of Nottingham (See Edmondson.)

No. V.

The coat of La famille Mathan: it is so represented by the letter cited. The arms are not unlike those of the Barons Tregoze of Herefordshire.

No. VI.

The coat of La Roque Mesnillet. See the letter cited.

No. VII.

The arms of the family of Harcourt, the name of one of the followers of Duke William mentioned by Bromton. This family is at present in so honourable a rank as well in this country as in Normandy as to need no comment. Both branches bear at this day the arms represented on this tile.

No. VIII.

This coat, by the armorial of Normandy, belongs to the family of Bray. I cannot but observe that

from the variation of the colour of the exterior part of the tile in order to represent the Cheif of the Sheild, it is evident that it was intended to delineate this coat in two colours only, without any attention to blazonry.

No. IX.

These arms by the letter cited, appear to belong to the family of La Riviere Predauge.

Another friend has suggested to me that they are the arms of the Lucy's of Warwickshire ; nor is it in the least improbable that the

To face page 56

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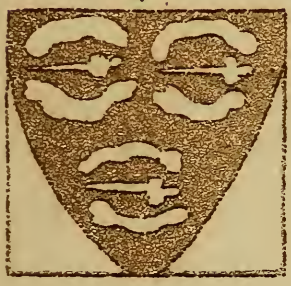

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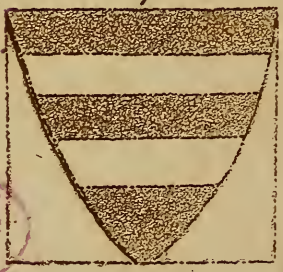

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same arms by inter-marriages may have been at different periods borne by different families. With respect to the armorial bearings of the Lucy's, I shall make an extract from the Commentators on the following line in Shakspere's Merry Wives of Windsor :

" THE luce is the fresh fish, the salt fish is an old coat."

TOLLET upon this says, " Shak-
" spere seems to frolick here in his
" heraldry with a design *not* to be
" easily understood." In Leland's Collectanæa, Vol. I. part ii. p. 615.

" the arms of Geffrey de Lucy
" are ' de goules poudré a croisil
" d'or a treis luz d'or."

STEEVENS in his note on this subject says, " The luce is a pike
" or jake:

" Full many a fair partrich had he in mewe
" And many a breme and many a luce in stewe."

IN Ferne's blazon of Gentry, 1586, quarto, " The arms of the
" Lucy family are represented as
" an instance, that ' signs of the
" coat should sometimes agree with
" the name." It is the coat of
" Geffrey de Lucy; he did bear

" Gules three *lucies* hariant ar-
" gent."

No. X.

By a letter from my Brother, written from Caen, I find this coat belongs to the Ecr. Seigneur de Longvillers Beauvais in the Generality of Caen.

Gyffard, one of the followers of William (see Bromton), has also pretensions to this coat of arms.

No. XI.

Without comment.

No. XII.

THIS coat by the letter cited, appears to belong to the family of Talvas proche Isigny.

No. XIII.

WITHOUT comment.

No. XIV.

THESE are the arms of Fiennes, Lord Saye and Sele.—Fiens (see Bromton) was one of the followers of Duke William.

No. XV.

THIS coat resembles that of Annesley.

No. XVI.

THIS coat I take to be that of Tilly, a great Norman family, Lords of Tibouville or Aquillon a Baron of England.

I BEG leave, my Lord, to observe, that I do not venture to advance my sentiments as founded on certainty: the different circumstances adduced have great weight in my mind; and yet I shall be happy to receive further information from any one more conversant than myself in Anglo-Normanic Antiquities.

I HAVE the honor to be, with great regard,

My Lord,
Your very faithful
And obedient Servant,
JOHN HENNIKER. jun.

To the EARL *of* LEICESTER,
President *of the* Society *of*
Antiquaries, *&c. &c. &c.*
with sixteen Norman tiles.

P. S. I request your Lordship to communicate to the Society that I desire they will honor me with the acceptance of these tiles, as monuments of ancient Heraldry.

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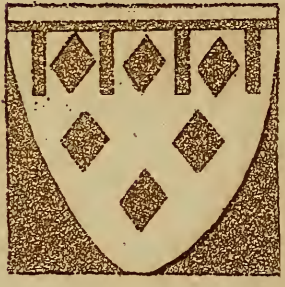

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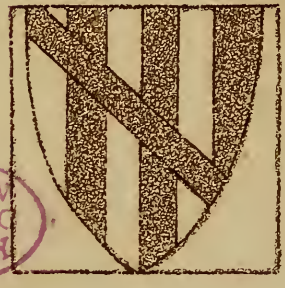

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A

SECOND

LETTER

TO

GEORGE,

EARL OF LEICESTER,

PRESIDENT

OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES,

&c. &c. &c.

READ TO THE SOCIETY, *MAY* 29, & *JUNE* 5, 1794.

FROM

JOHN HENNIKER MAJOR, Esq.

M. A. F. R. S. S. A. and M. P.

A SECOND

LETTER TO *GEORGE,*

EARL OF LEICESTER.

&c. &c. &c.

PORTMAN-SQUARE.
April 30, 1794.

MY LORD,

I TROUBLED your Lordship with a former letter upon the origin, antiquity, and probable history, of Norman Tiles, embellished with armorial bearings, which were heretofore placed in the pavement of a large apartment in the Convent of St. Stephen, at Caen.

I have since learned from a respectable, and intelligent friend, Monsieur Moysant, one of our honorary members, and *ci-devant* Professor of Rhetoric in the University of Caen, now, from the distress of his own Country, resident in this Metropolis, that there are four other tiles of the same sort, and from the same source, and having been favoured by him with drawings taken from the originals, I wish to render complete, as far as may be, that which was before imperfect. Monsieur Moysant has also been so obliging as to promise me his assistance, upon which I much rely, as I

find by an extract now before me, dated 7th Feb. 1791, that he was at that time appointed by the Directory of the Department of Calvados, together with two other gentlemen, to collect " soit par de simples de-
" scriptions, soit par des Copies ou
" desseins toutes les inscriptions, les
" monumens et les antiquités qui se
" trouvent dans les maisons religieu-
" ses, et qui par leur utilité pour
" l' histoire exigent qu'on les sauve
" de la destruction de ces mêmes
" maisons dont la vente, et la demo-
" lition peuvent avoir lieu." As from his indulgence I derive more information than relates to these ad-

ditional tiles only, I shall take in order the sixteen already treated of, with such further comment as may belong to them respectively, and shall then consider in their turn the other four lately come to my knowledge.

No. I.

These were the arms of France at the time of Charles the Fifth, when Edward the Third added them to those of England.

No. II.

It is to be observed that at this

distance of time the same coat of arms may be not only in this, but in many following instances, ascribed to different families, and that is the more likely to be the case, as they are composed of two colours only, and not, as in modern heraldry, of a great variety of emblazonment. I believe these arms, for the reasons already given, to have belonged to Matilda.

BERTRAM, Barons of Briquebec and of Fauguernon in Normandy, bore similar. William Bertram is mentioned in Domesday. He is in the lists of knights who followed the

Conqueror to the battle of Hastings, in the History of the church of England, by Fuller, in the History of Normandy, by Du Moulin, and in Bromton. This family is also among those mentioned in the Charter of Henry the Second, as a benefactor to this Abbey, wherein their contribution is expressly specified.

Neustria pia, p. 628.

These arms may also be those of the family of Mowbray, which also bore a lion rampant. Geoffrey of Mowbray, Bishop of Coutances, and Robert of Mowbray, Earl of Northumberland, are both men-

tioned in the same Charter as benefactors to the Abbey: they were both at the battle of Hastings; and it appears by Domesday, that the Prelate had immense possessions in this country.

No. III.

Arms of Tancarville, the Hereditary Chamberlains of Normandy, and who from that dignity often took the name of Chamberlain only. A similar derivation of a name is to be found in our own History, taken from the Stewards of Lochaber. This family were benefactors to the Abbey, as appears by the Charter

of Henry the Second, and by Monasticon Anglicanum, Vol. 2, p. 957, where mention is made of the Charter of Reinard the Chamberlain of King William, in favour of this Monastery : and he is cited as a benefactor in the Charter of Henry the Second. This name frequently occurs in Domesday, and in the Rolls of Battle Abbey.

No. IV.

Arms of Mallet de Graville. Robert Mallet was certainly at the battle of Hastings ; for we find by History, that it was to him that William entrusted the dead body of

Harold. He was High Chamberlain of England, and as appears by Domesday, possessed a most extensive property in different counties.

No. V.

These arms are those of Tregoz or of Mathan ; it is not easy to decide between them. The family of Tregoz were benefactors to the Abbey. Robert de Tregoz and his son Roger are noticed in the Charter of Henry the Second ; and their names are to be found in most of the lists of Battle Abbey. The Mathans were benefactors to the Abbey of the Holy Trinity at Caen,

founded by Matilda the wife of the Conqueror. Their donations to this Monastery are cited in the Charter of Henry the Second, in the Royal Library, at Paris; Thresor des Chartres, Vol. 60. They are also named by Robert Wace, in his History of Normandy, British Museum, 4, C. xi, 9, among the Knights who came into England with Duke William.

No. VI.

It seems that these arms are not those of La Rocque Mesnillet, as supposed in my former letter. This family, according to the Armorial de

Normandie, published by Chevillard, bears upon a shield azure three bars argent, which are not the arms here referred to, as they are Barré of six pieces in two colours. These arms, No. 6, are those of the Lords of Villiers, Barons of Villiers sur port and of Coulonces. The origin of this family is treated of in the second volume of the House of Harcourt, by La Rocque.

No. VII.

Arms of Harcourt. Those who are curious to know more of this family, antient and illustrious, as well in England, as in France, may

consult La Rocque, who has written expressly on the subject.

No. VIII.

These arms are those of Bray. The head of the family is in the list of Dumoulin as having accompanied William the Canqueror. They are also found in the second volume of Dugdale's Baronage.

No. IX.

The arms of the Lucy's of Normandie who, like those of England, bore sometimes two, and sometimes three, luces on a field, sometimes

plain and sometimes charged with croslets. Richard de Lucy, Lord of Gouviz, and Baron of Cretot in Normandy is mentioned in the MSS. of the Cotton Library, Tib. D. 11, among the Nobility of France, and his arms are illuminated, folio 298, b. The name of this family is in almost all the Rolls of Battle Abbey.

It appears that these arms cannot belong to the family of La Riviere Prédauge, which according to the armorial of Normandy, bore on a shield gules, two fishes interlaced by two bars wavy azure.

No. X.

ARMS of the Malherbes Lords of Longvillers, whose name is inserted in the lists of Bromton, Fuller, and D'eudemare.

THE family of Camville bore also these arms in Normandy, and the Gyffards in England. The latter in Normandy on a shield Or an eagle gules, membered azure.

THE above three families are known to be of great antiquity in Normandy; and their names are

inserted in those lists, English as well as Norman, which are made of those who attended Duke William.

No. XI.

These arms said to be unknown in my former letter, are those of the Lords de la Haye in Costentin. That branch of this family of Villebadin bore on a shield gules, semé gouttes Or, three shields argent. This appears in the continuation of the History of Normandy, by Dumoulins, where the names and arms are introduced of those Barons of that Province, who accompanied Robert de Courteheuse, son of Duke

William, to the first Crusade, p. 5. The Lords of De la Haye are named in the lists of Dumoulin and D'eudemare.

No. XII.

THERE is a mistake, it seems, in the former letter, which ascribes these arms to the family of Talvas. The name is Fauconnier, who are Lords of Tollesvast, and they bear a coat essentially different. These are the arms of the Barons D'aulnay (De Alneto.) Enguerrand D'aulnay was a benefactor to the Abbey of St. Stephen, as appears from the Charter of Henry the Second above

cited. The Barons of Aulnay are in the two lists of Dumoulin and Bromton.

No. XIII.

THESE arms, without comment in my former letter, are of the Lords of Gorges, who bore in Normandy, on a shield gules, six lozenges azure. Their name appears in Bromton's list.

A CLAIM may be also laid to these arms by the Lords of *Reviers*, who bear in Normandy, argent, six lozenges gules, as appears in the armorials of Normandy, and who, in England, is

said by Hutchins, in his History of Dorsetshire, to have borne on a shield gules, six lozenges Or. This family founded the Abbey of Montbourg, under William Rufus, and Robert Wace, in his History, makes mention of them as of the number that were present under William, at the Battle of Hastings.

No. XIV.

These arms belong to the Lords of Creully, who, according to La Rocque, Vol. 2, p. 1067 of his History of the family of Harcourt, descended from Robert de Glocestre, natural son of Henry the First, and

consequently from Duke William, founder of the Abbey of St. Stephen. Robert, Earl of Glocestre, and William his son, are noticed in the Charter of Henry the Second, as benefactors to this monastery, and the family of Creully who flourished a long time in Normandy, imitated this example of their ancestors by an extended liberality towards religious institutions.

No. XV.

I BELIEVE these arms have been, in my former letter, properly given to the family of Annesley.

No. XVI.

THE arms of Tilli, Lords of St. Germain, who bore on a shield Or, a bend azure over a fleur de lys gules. Their ancestors were benefactors to this monastery. Godefroy, and Raoul de Tilli appear by the Charter of Henry the Charter of Henry the Second to have contributed liberally. Their name is inserted in the lists of Fuller and Dumoulin.

No. XVII.

THESE arms belong to the family

of Paynel (Paganelli) who bore on a shield Or, two lions passant gules. The Charter of Henry the Second shews them to have been benefactors to this Abbey: their name is in the lists of Bromton, D'eudemare and Dumoulin, and their possessions in England, noticed in Domesday.

No. XVIII.

Arms of the Lords of Thieuville, who bear on a shield Or, two bends between shells gules. This family is ancient and illustrious in Normandy, and has furnished one Bishop of Coutances, and two Ab-

besses of ths Noble Convent of the Holy Trinity at Caen. I have inserted the above out of compliment to the respectable authority to which I am indebted for the comment on these arms ; but am satisfied that they are not composed of shells, but an antient manual weapon.

No. XIX.

This coat of arms may belong to the family D'Ussy, Lords of Ouilly le Tesson, who bore on a field argent, six roses gules. Anchetil D'Ussy is noticed by the Charter of Henry the Second as one of the

benefactors to the Abbey of St. Stephen.

It may also belong to the family of the Bacons, Lords of Molley near Bayeux, who bore on a shield gules, six roses argent. The ancestors of this family are mentioned in the Charter of Henry the Second, and Robert Wace places them among the followers of Duke William.

No. XX.

These arms may be the arms of the elder branch of the family of

Tilly, of whom we have spoken, No. 16.

They may also belong to the family of Parfouru, who bear on a shield azure, a fleur de lys Or. So they may belong to the family of the Lords aux Espaules (ad scapulas) who bear on a shield gules, a fleur de lys Or. Both these last mentioned families are very antient in Normandy, but whether these arms belong to either of them is by no means certain. A family who were Lords of Condey bore on a shield azure a fleur de lys argent, seem to have better pretensions to

them, as they are said by the Charter of Henry the Second to have made considerable donations to the Abbey of St. Stephen at Caen.

THERE have been other armorial bearings in the same building from which these tiles are taken, now effaced by age. La Rocque in the 2d vol. p. 1921, asserts that he had seen the arms of Percy, viz. a sheild sable, with a cheif indented Or.

HAVING thus considered the particular armorial bearings, let us turn our thoughts to what has been said with regard to them in general, and

and the time in which they were placed in the Monastery.

Mr. de Thou, in his memoires, in the year 1574, says, " Lustrata in " urbe Sancti Stephani ædes, quod " arci imminere diceretur, primo " belli civilis motu diruta, sepulchro " etiam Gulielmi Neustriae ducis et " Angliae Regis immani sacrilegio " violato ; quae tamen informes " ruinae utcunque postea sartae " sunt. Insigne est cœnobium a " Gulielmo olim illo magnis vecti- " galibus dotatum, in cujus aula ex " figulino opere adhuc insignia vis " untur equitum Gallorum qui in

" Britannica expeditione ipsum se-
" cuti fuerant."

It seems evident from this passage, that in 1574, when Mr. De Thou critically inspected the Antiquities of the Convent of St. Stephen, at Caen, the tiles in question were considered as bearing the arms of those who followed Duke William on his invasion of England. This judicious historian gives ample credit to this tradition, which at any rate must have existed long before an epocha, now more than two centuries distant.

We find another tract on this subject, which from being part of a legal record, carries still greater authority than the mere opinion of an individual.

" Eleazard de Malherbe fils de
" Francois et de Louise Le Valois
" fut Conseiller au Baillage de
" Caen, et y mourut. Marie Lam-
" bert sa veuve fit dresser le 13 Juin
" 1619 un proces verbal par le Lieu-
" tenant General de Caen des armes
" des seigneurs de Malherbe qui
" sont peintes dans l'abbaye de St.
" Etienne de Caen. Les religieux

" presens attesterent scavoir par tra-
" dition des religieux qui les avoient
" precedés, que ces armes avoient
" etè peintes par ordre du Duc
" Guillaume en faveur de la No-
" blesse qui l'avoit suivi à la con-
" quete du Royaume d'Angleterre."
Diction. de la Noblesse Francoise au mot Malherbe.

We may also add the testimony of Mr. Huet, Bishop of Avranches, whose authority must have great weight, as he was a native of Caen, and had attentively studied its antiquities, which he has published under the title of *Origines de Caen.*

" Je crois avec beaucoup de fon-
" dement" says this learned Prelate, Orig. de Caen, p. 130, 2d. edition, " que ce Prince (Guillaume I.) en " bâtissant cette superbe Abbaye " (St. Etienne de Caen) ou il des- " tinoit sa sepulture, voulut aussi " s'y faire une demeure pendant sa " vie, *et l'abbaye et le Palais sont d'une* " *meme structure*. C'étoit la cou- " tume des seigneurs qui fondoient " alors fréquemment des monasteres " d'y pratiquer des demeures pour " s'y retirer lorsque leur piété leur " en inspiroit l'envie."

" Ces armoiries des *principales*

" *maisons de la province* qu'on voit
" peintes dans les salles de ce palais
" et qu'on croit être les armoiries
" des seigneurs Normands qui as-
" sistérent le Duc Guillaume a la
" conquête de l'Angleterre, passent
" dans l'opinion vulgaire pour y
" avoir été mises par ordre de ce
" prince, et pourroient être prises
" pour une marque qu'il y faisoit
" sa demeure ; mais on scait d'ail-
" leurs que ces armoiries sont beau-
" coup plus récentes que le Duc
" Guillaume, et qu'elles n'y ont
" été mises que vers la fin du 14 me
" Siecle."

HERE then we may observe, that Mr. Huet was persuaded that the Palace as well as the Abbaye had been erected by Duke William; that the armorial bearings were those of the principal families of Normandy, and lastly, that there was a tradition, a vulgar tradition, and therefore best founded in my opinion, constantly afoot from age to age, which declared these tiles to have received their origin and armorial embellishments, by orders of the Conqueror.

MR. Segrais, a native also of

Caen, speaks of these arms in the same manner with Mr. Huet.

" Bien des gens croyent que " les armes des Gentils-hommes de " Normandie qui se voyent dans les " salles, et dans le réfectoire de " l'abbaye de St. Etienne de Caen " sont celles de tous ceux qui pas- " sérent en Angleterre avec Guil- " laume le Conquérant. Ils se " trompent ; les armoiries n'étoient " pas encore inventées dans ce tems " la ; elles ne le furent que du tems " des Croisades, et il est certain que " la conquête de l'Angleterre se fit " quelque tems avant la premiere

" Croisade. Les armoiries qui se
" voyent a l'Abbaye de St. Etienne
" ne sont tout au plus que de 300
" ans." *Segrais*, Vol. I. p. 202.

This new testimony confirms the same tradition, which has uninterruptedly descended to our own days; insomuch, that an inscription has been lately placed by the Benedictines under a series of these tiles, fixed regularly in a wall for that purpose, to declare the arms to be those of the followers of Duke William.

" Ces XX pavés ont eté relevés
" D'une des salles de l'ancien palais

" des Ducs de Normandie a Caen
" Autour de laquelle
" avoient eté peints les escus des
" Seigneurs
" qui avoient accompagné le Duc
" Guillaume
" a le Conquête de l' Angleterre.
" Ces XX escus sont plus ou moins
" repétés
" Sur deux bandes de XVII toises de
" long."

MESSIEURS Huet and de Segrais, it is true, do not give credit to the tradition; but however, they affirm that in their time such existed. And although they doubt of the antiquity of the tiles, they do not pretend that the arms might not

belong to those followers of Duke William, who had been Benefactors to the Convent. Mr. Huet even expressly says, that they belong to the principal families of Normandy; and as in this Province as well as in England, the principal families trace their origin to this epoch, it is at least probable that these arms were those borne by the Chieftains of that day.

One may add to the above the authority of the learned Hickes. This celebrated Antiquary shews the families began to have proper names, when they first took armorial bearings; and asserts that the

latter came into use at the time of the Conquest.

" QUOAD tempus autem in quo
" cognomina personalia in gentilia
" primum abire cœperunt, id qui-
" dem ut ego puto, fuit cum gentes
" sive tribus et familiæ insignibus
" quæque suis, quæ nos Gallicè
" *Armes* vocamus designari solebant
" cujus quidem artis incunabula
" Galliam fuisse, termini artis, qui
" omnes Gallici sunt ostendunt ; in
" Gallia, inquam, artis fæcialis ho-
" diernæ rudimenta posita sunt, ali-
" quandiù post conquestum."

If therefore the names of families existed at the time of the Conquest, upon the principles supported by Hickes, in his *Dissertatio Epistolaris*, the use of armorial bearings must have been in vogue at the same epocha. That the names of families existed in Normandy before the Conquest is sufficiently proved by the historians of that Country. The Ferrieres, the Montgomerys, the Montforts, the Grantmesnils, the Crespins, the Tony, bore names that then descended with hereditary lustre. But as it would occupy too much time to state all the passages

that confirm this fact, it will be sufficient to refer to the Charter of the 14th Calends July, of the very year of the Conquest, and which was anterior to it a few months only. By this Charter, as appears in Gallia Christiana, vol. XI. Matilda, the wife of the Conqueror founded the Abbey of the Holy Trinity at Caen, and as witnesses or as benefactors we find there the names of Hubert de Rie, Raoul et Humfrey le Chamberlein, Hugues de Rosel, Roger de Mowbray, Renaud de Glanville, Hugues de Montfort, Richard de Beaufou, Foulques d'Al-

noy, Robert Bertram, Burchard de Lisle, Godefrey de Calmunt, Raoul Tesson, and many others. All these above mentioned had descendants who were heirs to their names as well as possessions, and after the Conquest are noticed in Domesday, the Cortulines, and in the Baronages of England. Thus then it appears that families at that time had their own proper names, and if according to Hickes, coats of arms, and proper names were coeval, it will amount to a proof, if such were further necessary, that the former existed at the time of the Conquest by Duke William.

Robert Wace also who lived in the time of our Henry the First of England seems to insinuate that they existed among the Normans before the Conquest. When this Poet describes the battle of Walesdunes, fought in 1046, in the plains lying between the city of Caen and the village of Argence, between Duke William and many of his Barons, then in rebellion against him: he says that there was no baron no man of great possessions who had not his gonfaron (standard bearer) following him, and that every-one had their arms painted in different manners.

" Mult veissiez par les grans plaignes
" Moveir conreiz et Chevetaignes
" N'i a Riche poem ni Baron
" Qui n'ait lez lui son gonfanon
" Ou gonfanon ou altre enseigne
" Ou sa maisnie se restreigne
" Connoissances et entresainz
" De plusors guises escuz painz.

But should the placing of those arms have been, by some years subsequent to the period of the Conquest, and the names of those who had been friends and benefactors to this Monastery at its foundation, had not surely mouldered into oblivion; and who should have been the founders, but the heads of the

principal families of that day in Normandy; viz. those who followed Duke William into England? The corporate body who existed in a great measure—who derived many of their comforts at least—from such munificence, would feel an extraordinary pleasure, if not a duty, (witness what the late possessors have done by way of memorial) to shew their gratitude by every token of respect. What could better answer such an object than the memory of their founders perpetuated in the representation of the armorial bearings of their families. They are, as it were, an hieroglyphic in history

as they were at one time in the field of battle ; equally the incitement to valour and beneficence.

In times of war they collected men of prowess round their leader for the defence of their Country. They formed a martial badge which did away the veil of undiscriminating armour ; proclaiming the warriour's name, family, and rank ; and he was bound to support his title to this distinction by his courage and conduct, or be disgraced by not attending to the duties of his situation. Henry the Fourth of France said (alluding, no doubt, to this use

of armour) " Ralliez vous a ma " panache Blanche, vous la trouve- " rez toujours dans le Chemin de " l' Honneur et de la Gloire."

In times of peace, when arts were turned to munificence and charity, the use of armorial bearings was to perpetuate thus hieroglyphically upon public buildings, gratitude for benefactions of an exemplary nature and consequence.

At home we have many instances of the same kind: at Dunmow in Essex, at Thornham Magna in Suffolk, and many others, which may hereafter

be the subject of a further disquisition.

Before I come to a conclusion I must acknowledge my obligations to a Gentleman, as well informed in literature, as amiable in private life, the Abbé de la Rue, Professor of History in the University of Caen, and one of the Honorary Members of the Society of Antiquaries of London, &c. &c. who has not only assisted me with great effect on these Comments, but has given me proofs of a well-directed pursuit upon these subjects. We may expect from him a Treatise, the best

stated as from the best informed, on the lists, sixteen in number, of those who were the followers of Duke William.

I HAVE the honor to be, with great regard,

My Lord,
Your very faithful,
And obedient Servant,
JOHN HENNIKER MAJOR.

To the EARL *of* LEICESTER,
President *of the* Society *of*
Antiquaries, *&c. &c. &c.*

P. S. The two Figures upon the last plate represent William the Conqueror and Matilda his Queen. They were painted on the wall of a Chapel in the Monastery of St. Stephen, at Caen, and are thought to have been original and coeval with its foundation. In the year 1700 the Chapel was pulled down, but the figures had been previously engraved by Montfaucon.—[Montfaucon, last plate of his first volume of *Monumens de la Monarchie Francoise*— and Ducarel's *Anglo-Norman Antiquities*, p. 61.]

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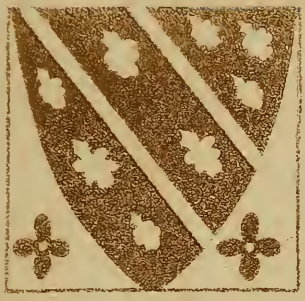

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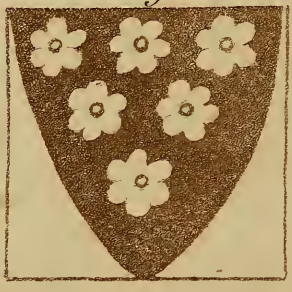

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